

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 15, 2006 in which the Examiner has required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following two groups:

Group I: Claims 31-60 drawn to a pharmaceutical composition comprising the dideoxy nucleosides of structure represented in claim 31, classified in classes 514, 424 and 536, subclass various.

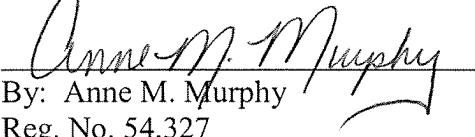
Group II: Claims 1-30, drawn to a method for the treatment of an HCV infection in a host, comprising administering to the host an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 of Group I, classified in classes 514, subclass various.

In response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction, Applicants elect Group I consisting of claims 31-60 drawn to a pharmaceutical composition. Applicants reserve the right to request rejoinder of the method claims 1-30 upon allowance of 1 or more of the pharmaceutical composition claims of Group I.

Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the election made herewith. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: July 13, 2006


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